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# How to Move LIVE PESTS, PATHOGENS, and DISEASE VECTORS of PLANTS

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U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
ANIMAL AND PLANT HEALTH INSPECTION SERVICE  
PLANT PROTECTION AND QUARANTINE  
HYATTSVILLE, MARYLAND 20782

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## APPLICATION AND PERMIT TO MOVE LIVE PLANT PESTS

### SECTION A - TO BE COMPLETED

1. NAME, ADDRESS AND TELEPHONE  
(Zip Code)

SCIENTIFIC NAMES OF PESTS TO BE MOVED	CLASSIFICATION (Order, Family Other)	LIFE STAGES IF APPLI- CABLE	NUMBER OF SPECIMENS OR UNITS	SHIPPED FROM (Country or State)	ARE IN T AR DEST (Che YES F-
A	B	C	D	E	
2.					
3.					

4. TOTAL NUMBER OF SHIPMENTS

6. PORT OF ARRIVAL





## **How to Move LIVE PESTS, PATHOGENS, and DISEASE VECTORS of PLANTS**

Researchers and others often have a scientific need to import living pest organisms or ship them about in the United States. Mishandling could result in a serious insect or disease outbreak, costing millions of dollars and resulting in the destruction of vital agricultural and plant resources.

Two Federal statutes—the Plant Quarantine Act of 1912 and the Federal Plant Pest Act of 1957—prohibit the importation and movement of plant pests, pathogens, vectors, and articles that might harbor these organisms unless authorized by the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service.

“Authorization” comes in the form of a permit to import living pest organisms or ship them in this country. APHIS carefully weighs “risk” against “expected benefits” before a decision is made on the issuance of each permit.

### **How to Apply for a Permit**

Persons intending to obtain living plant pests, pathogens, or disease vectors should apply for a permit at least 30 days before the expected shipment date. The application should be filed by the intended receiver since he will be responsible for complying with Federal regulations, including any requirements for special safeguards.

The necessary form may be obtained from: Director, Programs Development and Application, Plant Protection and Quarantine Programs, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Federal Building, Hyattsville, Md. 20782. Plant Protection and Quarantine field offices can supply the information.

Application for a permit must first be sent for review to the appropriate State official of the State of destination. He will forward the application to PPQ-APHIS with his comments. State comments are considered before a permit is issued.

## **Types of Organisms Requiring Permits**

1. Foreign plant pests known to be injurious to crops grown in the United States.
2. Domestic plant pests regulated by Federal and State quarantines.
3. Nonregulated domestic plant pests if shipment is into an area in the United States where the pests do not occur.
4. Pests of noxious plants.

## **Organisms Not Requiring Permits**

1. Pure colonies of plant pest predators and parasites and pure cultures of plant pest pathogens.
2. Nonpest organisms.

## **Evaluation of Application**

Each request for a permit is evaluated individually. The decision on whether to grant or deny a permit is made only after consultation with Federal, State, or private specialists. Factors considered include:

- Is the organism known to be a significant plant pest? a minor plant pest? a predator?
- Is the pest known to occur in the United States? If not, could research be conducted with a substitute organism or in the area where the pest now occurs?
- Is the pest of limited distribution in this country? or widespread?
- Is the confinement facility secure and is access limited to minimal personnel?
- Is pest colonization a necessary part of the research program?
- Is the research specimen of the same race or strain as already in the test area?
- Are field trials included in the test protocol?
- Would it be possible to eradicate an outbreak of the pest or disease in case of accidental escape?

## Conditions Specified in the Permit

The applicant must comply with the conditions specified in the permit. Safeguards listed in the permit specify method of packaging and how material is to be shipped, handled, treated, confined, used, and inactivated or destroyed. Instructions will vary depending upon pest species, origin, and destination of shipment. Inspection and approval of the premises may be stipulated in the permit.

Any deviation from the requirements in the permit must have prior approval from the issuing office. Any laboratory accident or irregularity resulting in escape, release, or theft of the pest must be immediately reported to PPQ-APHIS and the appropriate State regulatory official.

Permits are also required to import or to move interstate or intrastate ANIMAL pests, pathogens, and vectors. For application forms, contact—

Director, Programs Development and Application  
Veterinary Services, APHIS, USDA  
Federal Building  
Hyattsville, Md. 20782

or

The appropriate State regulatory authorities.  
For information concerning regulations governing shipment of pathogens, and vectors of diseases of MAN, contact—

Deputy Director, Foreign Quarantine Program,  
Center for Disease Control,  
Public Health Service  
Department of Health, Education, and Welfare  
Atlanta, Ga. 30333

or

Public Health Service Quarantine Stations at  
United States ports of entry.

This publication supersedes PA-873, "Regulating the Shipment of Living Pests, Pathogens, and Vectors," and PA-967, "Issuing Permits for the Movement of Plant Pests, Pathogens, and Vectors."

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